A

# LETTER

To the Right Honorable

The EARL of E----------t.

[ Price Sixpence. ]

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OR,

## CONSIDERATIONS on ſending Land Forces to PORTUGAL.

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*Proximus Egomet Mihi.*

TER.

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A

# LETTER

To ———————

My Lord,

THE importance of the ſubject occaſioning this correſpondence, being in ſome meaſure ſufficient to plead for the boldneſs of this addreſs, with one of your Lordſhip's temper and ability, I ſhall, without any further apology, proceed to what is principally intended, a remonſtrance upon the ſcheme of ſending a part of our land-forces to Portugal.

What information, your Lordſhip, or the other ſervants, about the perſon of the King, may have received, concerning the deſigns of Spain, upon the Portugueſe, ſure there

is not any that could juſtify ſo uncommon a ſtep as that of ſending troops to a country in order to prevent a rupture, eſpecially at a time when the Spaniſh Ambaſſador * at the court of Liſbon, had, in the name of his Maſter ſolemnly renounced all claims upon the kingdom of Portugal, or any of its appendages; and that upon the other hand, his moſt faithful Majeſty had openly declared his fixed reſolution to maintain the ſtricteſt neutrality: nor does it appear, that previous to the order for ſending troops thither, any actual hoſtilities were committed between the Spaniards and them. No Nation goes to war with another without firſt endeavouring to ſecure themſelves on the ſide of their neighbours, and particularly from any annoyance that may be offered by the Crown moſt contiguous to them.

The court of Madrid could not be blamed for being anxious about the part, which that of Liſbon was to take, in caſe of a rupture with Great-Britain. In the memorial preſented by the Spaniſh Ambaſſador, there is no air of haughtineſs, no offence to dignity, no

* See the Declaration on the 9th of March, 1762.

no inſult or arrogance; and if the ſpiritedneſs of a declaration be blameable, that from the court of Liſbon, was much more ſpirited than that from the court of Madrid; when his moſt faithful Majeſty declares, "That he had no cauſe of quarrel, either "with Spain, or with England, and there"fore intended to preſerve a ſtrict neutra"lity; that his ports would be open both to "Engliſh and Spaniſh ſhips, provided, they "conformed to the proper laws and cuſ"toms: but, that if either power, attempt"ed to encroach on his rights of ſovereign"ty, by obliging him to depart from the "neutrality he would wiſh to preſerve, he "ſhould repel, force by force, and appeal to "all Europe for the injuſtice that was done "him".

My Lord, 'tis juſtly obſerved by a wiſe ſtateſman, that a paper war, is not deadly, and ſeldom or never after the exchange of two or three broadſides this way, do they proceed to try their ſkill at other weapons, unleſs enticed to it, as in the caſe before us, for the natural enemies of Great-Britain have

kept invariably in their eye, a grand and principal object: To involve her in a war upon the continent, well knowing, that if ſhe only exert her ſtrength in the natural way, there is no ſtanding before her.

It will, my Lord, be found upon examination, that the court of Spain did not ſeriouſly think of attacking Portugal, until the language of the Britiſh court was told at the Eſcurial; and, who can blame the Catholic King, for doing every thing to diſtreſs a power, with whom he was at war. The buſineſs of the Spaniard is to involve Britain in a land war; but, it was the buſineſs and intereſt of Great-Britain to avoid it.

'Tis a ſaying, my Lord, of the higheſt authority, to beware of being Righteous overmuch, a wholeſome advice indeed, with regard to individuals, but much more to ſtates and kingdoms; for as Cicero obſerves, "A too ſcrupulous fulfilling of engagements "often tends to the detriment and loſs of "thoſe who do ſo." The duty very often changes with the occaſion, and as in all caſes

we

we ought to conſult the publick good, which is the very baſis and foundation of treaties: ſo neither ought we too readily to fulfill theſe engagements, which, in the completion of them, may be unprofitable to the promiſed, and more hurtful to the promiſer, and at the ſame time advantageous to the enemy.

Every perſon knows, that the treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, was in conſequence of a marriage between King Charles IId. and the princeſs Katherine of Liſbon, who had for her portion 300,000*l.* and the fort of Tangier. This required ſome conſiderable acknowledgment, eſpecially at a time when the royal family of Portugal, the houſe of Braganca, was not ſo firmly eſtabliſhed as now: and tho' no revolution was ever concerted with more ſecrecy, planned with more addreſs and judgmənt, and carried into execution with more vigour, and alacrity; yet, there were ſtill ſome malignants among the Portugueſe. And the King of Spain watched every opportunity to recover that flouriſhing kingdom, from which the ſpirited conduct of the inhabitants had ſo lately expelled him.

The

The moſt ſanguine advocates for the religious obſervation of the faith of Treaties, cannot with any degree of juſtice, pretend that the circumſtances now, and at the time of concluding the treaty between King Charles IId. and the Queen Mary Frances Elizabeth of Savoy Nemours, or between him and Don Pedro, who forſaking the party of France and Spain; as theſe were endeavouring to reinſtate the weak, the brutal and delirious Alphonſo on the throne of Portugal, are the ſame: and beſide Britain being at this very time engaged in a land war, might eaſily apologize for not literally fulfilling that part of the treaty by which they are engaged to furniſh 14,000 land forces to the Portugueſe.

But, my Lord, the words of the article itſelf are, in my humble opinion, the beſt argument, againſt ſending land forces, at this time into Portugal. "It is further ratified "and agreed, between their moſt ſacred Ma- "jeſties, of England and Portugal, that in "caſe any attempt ſhall be made, either "by the ſubjects of Portugal, or by "the crowns of France and Spain, or by

"any

" any other Potentate, to reinſtate Don Al-
" phonſo in the ſovereignty; or if theſe, or
" any other powers, ſhall attack, the king-
" dom of Portugal, then his moſt ſacred Ma-
" jeſty the King of England, ſhall endea-
" vour by good offices, to compromiſe every
" difference, and if ſuch friendly efforts prove
" ineffectual, he will then, and in that caſe
" aſſiſt the King and kingdom of Portugal
" with 14,000 men, and 30 men of war": If, my Lord, your Lordſhip will be pleaſed to peruſe the treaty itſelf, either in the Latin, or the Portugueſe language, you will find the tranſlation to be juſt, and literal; which being the caſe; it is evident from the words of the treaty, and indeed, from the nature of the thing, that England was not to ſend any troops to the aſſiſtance of Portugal, until that kingdom was attacked?

One part of the aſſiſtance ſtipulated to Portugal, by King Charles II. King William III. and at the treaty of Utrech, begun to be literally fulfilled, on the very day of our declaring war againſt Spain: The coaſt of Portugal has frequently been the ſcene

of

of action, between the Spaniſh and Engliſh-fleets; frequently ſhips of war, have been blown up nigh the rock of Liſbon, witneſs the deſtruction of the Dartmouth, in the laſt war, and the total overthrow of the French ſquadron commanded by M. de Clue, in this; ſo that there is no need of ſending 20 ſhips of the line in a particular manner to Liſbon, to aſſiſt againſt Spain, ſince the whole Britiſh Navy, may ſooner or later have a bruſh with the Dons, near the Tagus, and that they daily parade along the coaſt of Portugal.

To interfere in diſputes before it be abſolutely neceſſary, is not agreeable to true policy, and is contrary to the general good which every treaty ought to conſider as its foundation and baſis: this would be to copy ſtrictly the conduct of France, in reſpect to the affairs of the Empire, for under the pretext of guarantying the treaty of Weſtphalia, the French army, on every petty difference between the inferior Princes, march into Germany, carrying like Samſon's foxes, fire in their tails, and doing more hurt to their friends, than to their enemies.

I take it for granted, my Lord, that no Spaniſh troops entered the territories of Portugal, prior to the order given for a body of Britiſh troops to be tranſported thither, at leaſt, prior to the 17th of April, the day when 100 matroſſes from the artillery, and the baggage, of the officers was ſhipp'd at the Tower, in which caſe, we have involved ourſelves in a ſecond land war, and not only ourſelves, but likewiſe the Portugueſe: indeed the court of Madrid, was marching her troops within a few leagues of the frontiers of Portugal, but what then? Is not every potentate, nay every landlord, poſſeſſed of an eſtate, at full liberty to do what he pleaſes upon his own property, and where can troops be better employed than upon the frontier? the forces of Spain, were doing nothing to the diſadvantage of Portugal, at leaſt, not ſuch things, as might draw Great Britain, to be Righteous over much, to do more than the treaty required, or to ſend forces into Portugal before that kingdom was actually attacked; no manifeſtos had been publiſhed againſt the court of Liſbon; the ties of blood that united the two kings were

ſtrong, an uninterrupted trade exiſted between their ſubjects, the bonds ariſing from gratitude * and treaty, were recent, and could not be looſed without pain; in a word there was not the leaſt appearance of a war between them, until the threatnings of G--B-. doubled their preparations, for the defence of themſelves, and of their frontiers; nor was it known in L——n that any attack, was really intended upon Portugal, until the 17th of April 1762, when the publick papers, abounded with the march of Spaniſh troops, to Zamora, Civdad, Rodrigo, and Salamanca; which laſt, is the moſt famous ſeminary of learning, next to Rome, in the whole Roman Catholic countries, there being in it no leſs than 10,000 Students of Divinity, which gave riſe to the proverb, Gallica Ariſtotelem dal Salamanca Deum. Will any perſon, my Lord, take upon him to ſay, that the frontiers of Portugal, were every where open, or that the forts were ſo weakly garriſoned, as to give no manner of check

to

* Alluding to the generous ſuccour, ſent by the court of Spain, to the Portugueſe, after the terrible Earthquake, the 1ſt of November 1755.

to the armies of Spain, and that theſe were to march without the leaſt oppoſition, to rendezvous upon the banks of the Tagus, and form before the palace Belem, without any obſtruction, and there to act with impunity? No man need be ſo ridiculous, the frontiers of Portugal are better ſecured than thoſe of Spain; the towns are naturally ſtronger, more numerous, and better fortified, and tho' the territory of Portugal be little more than a ſixth part of Spain; yet there are twenty acres of waſte ground in the latter, for one, that is in the former: the climate is generally more wholeſome, for the breezes that come from the Atlantic ocean, fan it greatly, and theſe, with ſome leſſer concomitant cauſes, tend ſo much to purify the air, and abate the intenſeneſs of the heat, that the warmth at Liſbon, is reckoned ten times leſs than at Madrid, tho' the former be almoſt two degrees South of the latter. The inhabitants of Portugal are generally reckoned to be to thoſe of Spain in the proportion of three to five nearly; for in the whole country of Iberia, there are about ſeven millions of inhabitants, two millions

dions ſeven hundred thouſand of which are Portugueſe.

The inhabitants of Portugal, my Lord, are far from being puſilanimous, as ſome may think fit to repreſent them, their hiſtory is replete with as great revolutions and grand events as that of Spain; the names of their Kings are brilliant in the annals of the age wherein they lived; their Sebaſtians, Emanuels, and their Alphonſos, ſhine with particular luſtre, the efforts of the nation for Liberty, have been truly generous, their ſtruggles for the independency every way noble, and in ſpight of the gloomineſs of their religion, they have breath'd ſentiments of true heroiſm: their encountering the whole forces of Africa, with ſucceſs, their frequent defeat of the Spaniſh armies, when wanting to enſlave them, their three victories over theſe people contrary to the will of their Prince, * and their perſeverance in the ſame ſentiments hitherto, leave little room to doubt of their power, or of their ability, their endea-

* The Duke of Braganca, Anno 1641, who was but a weak man.

deavours for extending trade, and improving in commerce and manufactory, have been crowned with a ſucceſs proportionable to their induſtry, and to the ſtrenuouſneſs of their efforts; the diſcovery of a new way to the Eaſt-Indies by the ocean, was a taſk reſerved for the Portugueſe; this was effected by Velaſo de Zama in the year 1497, under the auſpices of Emanuel II. King of Portugal, and will continue as a ſtandard monument of the enterpriſing genius of that illuſtrious monarch. The Cape of Good Hope, hitherto denominated the Cape of the Storms, had not been doubled before; * their ſettlements in the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies, with their acquiſition of Madeira and other Iſlands among the Canaries, muſt be an argument of their addreſs and power, while the retaining their territory, and preſerving their inde-

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* See the beautiful Poem of *Camouens* a Portugueſe gentleman who followed *Zama*, and in his deſcription, introduces a ſpectre appearing to that officer, when in ſight of the Cape, as walking in the depth of the Sea, his head reaching the clouds, the winds, the ſtorms, the thunder and lightning hanging about him, his arms extended over the waves: this ſais he, was the Guardian of that foreign ocean, unploughed by any ſhip before, who now complains of his being obliged to ſubmit to the audacious undertaking of the Portugueſe.

pendance cannot fail to give ſuitable impreſſions of their ſtrength, their wiſdom and ſagacity.

Can any Man, my Lord, think that the Kingdom of Portugal, by far the richeſt in ready money of any in Europe, would all at once tamely ſubmit to the Spaniards, a people, to whoſe ſway they have a natural Averſion and Antipathy! would they be willing to relinquiſh their all to their natural rivals in trade and in commerce, would they eaſily, and without ſtriking a ſtroke, deliver up the moſt immenſe treaſures, and moſt valuable jewels, with which the Court of Portugal ſhines? for it is well known that not many years have paſſed ſince a gem of the value of one hundred and twenty nine millions five hundred and fifty ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty three pounds was brought into Portugal from the Brazils. The forces of Portugal conſiſt of 40,000 effective men, among whom, the moſt active cavalry, and their foot ſoldiers are capable of enduring more fatigue then the Spaniards: beſides all this, they have a militia of one hundred thouſand men, all well

trained

trained and regular, and from theſe their regiments may be recruited at pleaſure; nay, every peaſant, eſpecially toward the frontiers, is allowed all the acoutrements fit for a ſoldier, and is trained to the uſe of arms: Would ſuch a people, my lord, with all theſe advantages, ſubmit to the firſt invader, and ſurrender their keys into the hand of their natural enemies: Would the forts of Baduſoz and Elvas on the ſouth, or of Braganca and Meranda on the north, or of Guarda in the center, between theſe, make no reſiſtance? ſuch a conduct would be equally abſurd and prepoſterous, as if a Spaniſh army was to march into the heart of Portugal, leaving theſe garriſons behind them. The Spaniſh generals were too wiſe to commit ſuch miſtakes, and the Portugueſe government has been too provident to neglect their barrier, ſo that our ſending forces to Portugal, was certainly an haſty ſtep, and perhaps may have rouſed the Spaniards to a rupture with their neighbouring Kingdom, with a view to involve Great Britain in another deſtructive land war.

Who-

Whoever pleaſes to conſider the hiſtory of our war with Spain under the Earl of Peterborough, and in conjunction with the forces of Portugal, will ſoon ſee that the land war there, was no leſs expenſive than that in Flanders under the Duke of Marlbro'; the nature of the climate obliged the troops twice to go into quarters: the exceſſive heats in Summer, which begin about the tenth of May, and continue to increaſe till the firſt of Auguſt, were as deſtructive to the Engliſh conſtitution, as the intenſe cold in the north of Germany, and the Spaniards always endeavour to decoy the troops of the Allies into the heart of the country, as being more hurtful for them, ſo that any war with Portugal may ſoon be expenſive to the Britiſh nation, and as fatal to the Engliſh, as that unneceſſary German quarrel, in which we have been engaged for theſe two years and a half in Weſtphalia and Hanover.

Nor do the annals of Queen Anne, paſs over the bravery and conduct of the Portugueſe! With what grand and noble Ideas do the actions of theſe people fill the minds of

of ſuch as peruſe them? how hard to ſay, which of their illuſtrious enterprizes, ſhine with the brighteſt luſtre; glorious indeed were the effects of their military virtue, whether we conſider the ſagacity of the leader, or alertneſs of the ſoldier; here are to be found the leading of armies, ſieges of places, taking of towns, croſſing of rivers, paſſing defiles in the face of an enemy, vigorous attacks, honourable retreats, advantageous encampments, fights ſuſtained, battles gained, armies vanquiſhed by ſtrength of genius and ſagacity broke by addreſs and dexterity, wearied out and conſumed by the ſuperiority of an unrepining patience, and conduct that was uniform.

If we, my Lord, take a view of the debates in parliament at any time upon the ſtate of our affairs, at that period, we ſhall find that neither the Earl of Peterborough, Lord Tyrawley nor the Earl of Galway, charged the Portugueſe with aught inconſiſtent with their own intereſt, or with their fidelity as allies to us; no, for when the ſtate of our loſes in Spain, and at the battle of Almanza, April 25th 1707, was laid before the houſe, it was found

 that

that theſe miſcarriages were only owing to our Miniſtry, it was voted that timely recruits for Spain, had been wanting, and a ſcheme was bronght about for hireing 7000 Palatines, 3000 Germans, and 1200 Italians, all which were embarked for Barcelona to fight the cauſe of the father of the ever gratful Hungarian Queen.

No perſon, my Lord, can conſider the Portugueſe ſoldiers, at that period, either in the field of battle, in the defending of towns, or taking of citadels, without entertaining a good opinion of them. Did they not take Alcantara by ſtorm, and Albaquerque by capitulation; did not the Conde de Galvea thunder along the weſtern borders of Spain, and carry conſternation into the bowels of the Spaniſh monarchy? the kingdoms of Leon, of old, and new Caſtile, the Spaniſh Eſtremadiera, and Andaluſia, were equally terrified; and many towns ſent out their magiſtrates with the keys of their gates to be laid before him.

But, my Lord, this faint elogium of the bravery and conduct of the Portugueſe, is with no view to reconcile my countrymen to join with theſe

theſe in a war upon the continent; my view is to convince your Lordſhip they are in ſome meaſure capable of defending themſelves; if indeed Great Britain was to join her forces with thoſe of any other potentate, I ſhould as ſoon give my approbation for uniting with with the Portugueſe as with the Germans; but the truth of the matter is, I am againſt every land war upon the Continent, and think that the ſending troops to Portugal, before ever a ſtroke was ſtruck by Spain, was inexpedient, haſty and incompetent.

Wars in general, my lord, ought to be avoided; the bleſſings of peace are preferable to any war, be it ever ſo ſucceſsful: Every civilized nation will join in this opinion, but particularly ſuch as depend upon trade and commerce: The Ruſſians, notwithſtanding the progreſs of their arms, are become ſenſible of it, the Swedes were ſo from the beginning of the war; and to this conviction may the ſlowneſs of their motions in every campaign be attributed, during the courſe of the preſent war. Every Engliſhman is convinced that a war upon the Continent is highly detrimental; for by it the kingdom is drained of a num-

number of hands, agriculture ſuffers, and manufactories decay, trade languiſhes, and an univerſal grief almoſt prevails.

I have, my Lord, ever conſidered Great-Britain as a formidable animal, naturally ſituated in the middle of the ocean, and only capable of exerting its natural ſtrength upon the watry element; and as a fiſh, be it ever ſo ſtrong, would loſe its ſtrength by coming upon land, ſo will Great-Britain loſe of her power when engaged in a land war, where nothing is to be gained; where ſucceſs is doubtful, where loſs of men and money are inevitable.

The pay of the private men in an army is but ſmall, in compariſon of ſome other things, eſpecially when under the direction of a foreign commander: The articles for artillery, baggage, horſes, mules, forage and proviſion, waggons, pontons, and all the requiſites both in offenſive and defenſive fortification, with that of intelligence, are attended with an expence that is frequently exorbitant, and the generaliſſimo is at liberty to charge theſe as he pleaſes. Your Lordſhip muſt have heard,

that

that a certain commander, who, to the diſgrace of an illuſtrious people, had the direction of their army, as if they had no general of their own, charged no leſs than 80,000 l. for a draw-bridge over a river ſcarce 500 yards broad! A ſtructute which architects ſkilled in the mechaniſm of bridges, valued at [redacted]. your Lordſhip will readily allow the overplus to be a pretty perquiſite for a foreign general.

The Miniſter whoſe exuberance of ſpeech, and heated imagination procured him an aſcendance in the Senate, and a ſpontaneous annuity from the King, could not be ignorant of the peeviſhneſs ſhewn to the national troops of Great Britain, by forreign officers, when under their direction. The Britiſh forces in Weſtphalia have bore the burthen and weight of every campaign: The Germans have had the preference in all things, the beſt Quarters, the leaſt fatigue, and the feweſt dangers; the national Britiſh Troops have been more expoſed in the Field, and in the Camp, than either the Hanoverians, Heſſians, or the forces of Brunſwick and Zell; the plains of Erfurth, Crevelt, Bergen, Minden and Hillinghauſen, have been moiſten'd with

with Britiſh blood; the Britiſh troops have even been quartered without the lines of the German army, and between theſe and the enemy; when perveyours have brought provi ſion into the Camp, the Sons of Britain were not allowed to buy an ounce of butchers meat or bread, while the Germans were ſerved; and frequently have they been obliged to lye under the open air all night in their cloaths, and to ſleep in the midſt of an heavy rain with the bridles of their horſes in their hands: What numbers have by this, contracted colds and died of them: Have not their horſes dropt dead at their feet for want of ſuſtinance? ſo that the adviſer of the late King, to entruſt the Britiſh troops with a foreign general, will need all his Eloquence, to a meaſure ſo abſurd and diſhonourable in itſelf, and ſo diſadvantageous to his native Country. However he has received an honourable annuity; he has been hollowed by the Londoners more than the King himſelf, tho' attended by a retinue of Princes of the Blood, no leſs than eleven, and all born in England, but three; a greater number than ever honour'd a Lord Mayor's feaſt at one time, ſo that as they hollowed him, and he laughed

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at them, that both parties were pleaſed, it would be wrong to diſturb them.

But why ſend an army of native Britiſh ſubjects into Portugal, at a time when England is obliged to muſter up every idle hand for forning a numerous militia, when Scotland is ſtript of her young Men, as the weight of the war has fallen upon that Kingdom, when Ireland is torn by a rebellious inſurrection, and that our late acquiſitions call for whatever Individuals can be ſpared? There are many poor people to be liſted upon the continent, Germans, Swiſs, Palatines, and Italians are eaſy to be found, the revenue of Portugal, with the money brought annually from their Colonies, amounts to ſix millions ſterling, and where there is money there will be men: By our fleet we may, at a moderate price, tranſport the moſt numerous bodies of forces to Portugal, we may protect their trade to the Brazils, to Paraguay, to Madeira, and all their ſettlements. Nor is this all, for the Moors may ſoon be ſtirred up to attack the Spaniſh Forts upon the coaſt of Africa, and might be furniſhed with Artillery, and mili-

tary

tary ſtores, by the Britiſh merchants; in which caſe the court of Spain will be obliged to divide her forces, and to abandon her enterprize againſt the Portugueſe.

I know, my Lord, that to diſtreſs Spain by introducing a war into the heart of her monarchy, will be urged as a ſufficient ground for ſending a body of Land forces into Portugal. But cannot Germans, Swiſs and Italians do the ſame? Cannot theſe as well as natural Britons, encounter heats, want of forage, proviſions, and other neceſſaries, and at laſt be cooped up in the kingdom of Valentia, where the French troops may pour down upon them, defeat them as at Almanza, and oblige the ſhattered remains to return thro' a country totally exhauſted, in order to declare their own misfortunes, and to ſhow the power of their enemies?

But, my Lord, will any perſon ſay, that the neighbouring Potentates, the King of Sardinia, the Emperor of Germany, or even the Courts of France and Rome can ſit idle ſpectators, and ſee the Spaniards ſwallow up the Portugueſe. Indeed France, now deſ-

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perate by her loſſes, might ſit quiet, but I doubt if the others would: The Pope would thunder out his Anathemas, and the King of Sardinia at this time the beſt General of his age, would make a powerful diverſion; whereas, if we plunge headlong into a land-war, we run a riſque of loſing our forces, ſquandering our ſubſtance, to the manifeſt hurt of the labourer among ourſelves, and enter upon a taſk, that may in five years coſt Britain 100,000 men, for our regiments muſt be recruited frequently, and I doubt if recruits will in five years after this, be ſo ready as now.

In the event of a parliamentary enquiry, I flatter myſelf, that the ſending a body of land forces, I mean native Britiſh ſubjects, will be found hurtful to Britain; nay, and to Portugal, whoſe guardian we are; for it will preſent an opportunity to our enemies of giving us a ſtunning blow, in conſequence of which, they may regain what was conquered from them; whereas, if we engage in no land war, further than in tranſporting the troops of other ſtates into their domi-

nions, our conqueſts will be preſerved, our honour will be eſtabliſhed, and Portugal itſelf will be more firmly ſecured in her trade, her independance, and every thing valuable to her. In this caſe the nations around will ſoon ſee that patriots are not wanting in the Britiſh ſenate to diſpel the clouds of error that have increaſed our national debt, almoſt fifty millions more than when the royal annuitant began his adminiſtration, then will it be ſeen that the people of England, are not always eaſily prevailed on to enter into ſchemes that may be againſt their own real intereſt.

It will readily be allowed that Great Britain and Portugal ought to live in the ſtricteſt friendſhip and correſpondence, peace with England, and war with all the World, is the natural maxim of a ſenſible Portugueſe; we take from them vaſt quantities of the richeſt and fineſt Wines, many worthy merchants have made eſtates in Madeira and the other dominions of Portugal: which is the chief foreign market for our woollen and linnen manufactories, our Sheffield, Chelſea and

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Birmingham wares, and no leſs than two millions ſterling in ſpeicie is annually received from thence, for watches, clocks, types and other printing materials, ſnuff-boxes, tea-equipages, knives, buckles, ſciſſars, arms, military-ſtores, with all kind of cutlery and toys; nor do I think it unworthy the deliberation of a Britiſh ſenate, for doing them the beſt and moſt important ſervices, the moſt ſolid and ſubſtantial good; I dare ſay that auguſt aſſembly would not vote it to conſiſt in an improper exertion of our ſtrength, by ſending out 14,000 Britons to an unwholſome climate at a time when their preſence would be more neceſſary elſewhere, for the ſervice of their own country and for the more durable and ſolid advantage of the Portugueſe.

I am, &c.

I am, &c.